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To: Examiner, Jay A. Morrison
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Fax No. 571 273-8300
From: William S. Frommer
Date: March 6, 2008
Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/638,988
Sony File: S03P0970US00
Sony IPD: MS
Our Ref.: 450100-04709

No. of Pages: 3
(including cover page)

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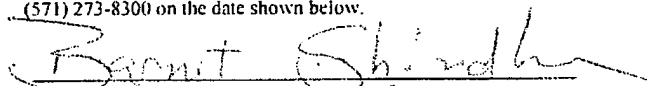
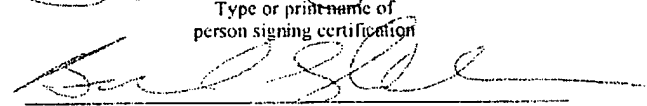
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PATENT
450100-04709**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Hiroyuki SUGAWARA et al. Notice of Allowance
Dated: 12/28/2007
Serial No. : 10/638,988
For : DATA STORAGE SYSTEM
Filed : August 12, 2003
Examiner : Jay A. Morrison
Art Unit : 2168
Confirmation No.: 6298

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RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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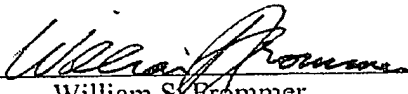
Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed December 28, 2007. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

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450100-04709

allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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